



INTERNATIONAL MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY SHOW
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NEWS RELEASE

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Economic Momentum and Technology Advances Build Excitement for IMTS 2026

McLean, Va. (September 15, 2025) — The foundations for a stronger business climate, the latest advances in manufacturing technology, from machine tools to metrology, and the accelerated growth of industrial AI, automation, additive manufacturing (AM), software, and digital technologies are converging to build excitement for [IMTS – The International Manufacturing Technology Show](#).

Registration for IMTS 2026, which runs Sept. 14-19, 2026, is now open. During the six days of the show, IMTS becomes the epicenter of the manufacturing world. Visitors from more than 110 countries travel to Chicago's McCormick Place to connect with established manufacturing technology providers, innovative startups, subject matter experts, and industry peers.

"IMTS is a catalyst for performance – it is where people, products, and process technologies come together to shape the future of manufacturing," says Travis Egan, chief revenue officer of AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology, which owns and produces IMTS. "The improvements made as a result of attending IMTS are critical for the progress of not just manufacturing but also our nation."

Economic Foundation

Douglas K. Woods, president of AMT, notes a governmental push to strengthen the defense, aerospace, and marine industrial base.

"Several provisions in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act benefit manufacturers and small businesses by helping to stimulate capital investment, enhance innovation, and maintain American competitiveness in global markets," says Woods. He cites 100% bonus depreciation, immediate R&D expensing, and a doubling of the Section 179 expensing cap to \$2.5 million ([see details](#)).

Woods also notes that more than \$8 trillion of investments have been pledged since January 2025. The United States continues to be the biggest consumer market in the world, and companies want to make products closer to their point of consumption. As an example, he cites GE Appliances announcing a \$490 million investment to reshore production of washers and washer-dryers to Louisville, Kentucky, and Apple

committing to invest \$600 billion across the United States and launching its American Manufacturing Program.

Reshoring also presents opportunities for the small contract manufacturers who attend IMTS to find solutions that drive efficiency. [Catamount Machine Works](#), a 10-person shop in Florida, uses automated machining systems from [Haas Automation](#) to win reshoring business by achieving more than 150 production hours per system per week, versus 35 hours for an attended machine.

“With automation, we get products to the customer much quicker while being more profitable and competitive on pricing – and when I say more competitive, we are taking work from overseas,” says Catamount CEO Chris Basgall.

“The theme for IMTS 2026 is ‘[Achieve the Impossible](#).’ With the technologies showcased at IMTS 2024, manufacturers are achieving efficiencies they once thought impossible and are winning new business as a result,” says Michelle Edmonson, vice president, exhibitions, AMT. “From additive to even more automation, exhibitors in all [10 technology sectors](#) will talk about how they leverage AI. I think that the AI possibilities exhibited at IMTS 2026 will be talked about in the same way the internet was for previous generations.”

AI Leaders and Industrial Innovators

“IMTS visitors can divide AI into two categories: 1) business management AI tools to help make decisions about the work, and 2) process management AI tools that make decisions inside the work,” says Ryan Kelly, vice president of technology at AMT.

“We believe AI will be a dominant theme at IMTS, not only because it’s accelerating production and increasing competitiveness but because it’s helping address the labor gap by preserving legacy expertise,” says Ryan Pembroke, product manager, production software at [Hexagon Manufacturing Intelligence](#).

AI tools that leverage real shop data (such as [Hexagon’s ProPlan AI](#)) can reliably predict the best toolpath and machining strategy, which can reduce programming time by 75%. Critically, AI can capture the logic behind a company’s best programmers and make it reusable across the team, ensuring that the knowledge gained by experienced employees over many years doesn’t disappear when they retire.

“We’re seeing real value in AI reducing onboarding and training time and ensuring consistency across shifts, machines, and locations,” says Pembroke.

“IMTS is consistently the go-to event for all the latest innovations related to manufacturing and machining,” says Bridget Spears, marketing and communications manager at [Mazak](#). “The displays, booths, presenters, and topics are always at the vanguard of the transformative changes that will impact industry, and we anticipate another great IMTS in 2026.”

Open Your Mind To Improve Your Bottom Line

Visitors come to IMTS because they want to find the next innovation that elevates performance and precision, and they can find smarter solutions to enhance every step of their operation.

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“Day to day, you become stuck in a bubble that’s your shop,” says Tom Bassett, the owner of [Pro-Cam Services LLC](#) in Zeeland, Michigan. “When you go to IMTS, the whole world opens up. It’s a powerhouse of innovation, bringing together everything related to manufacturing under one roof.”

For example, while Bassett did not have plans to purchase a machine while attending IMTS 2024, by Friday of the show, he had negotiated a deal for a [DN Solutions](#) 5-axis DVF 5000. At IMTS 2016, he discovered Zoller’s 6 preset and heat shrinker. Initially, he thought those were for production shops, not job shops, but adding them to his 24-person CNC job shop has helped increase revenue by more than \$1 million.

Max Egan, CEO of thermoset leaders [Atlas Fibre](#) and [Acculam](#), says that “IMTS helps you understand what good looks like. So many of the technologies work together. Having them all in one place enables you to draw connections and see how they play in your ecosystem.”

To obtain up to 72 hours of unattended run time, Atlas Fibre has integrated a [Fastems](#) FMS pallet handling system with six [Okuma](#) MU 6300V 5-axis vertical machining centers. Coupled with other technology additions, the company has grown its revenue by 500% in five years.

Start Exploring Now

To preview the show, users may search IMTS.com by exhibitor name, keyword, or sector. Clicking on an exhibitor’s name gives you access to the company’s online showroom, which provides their booth location and allows you to save the company in an online [Show Planner](#). Some of the [features of IMTS 2026](#) include:

- A growing [Automation Sector, accelerated by SPS – Smart Production Solutions](#) in the North Building.
- Locating the [Additive Manufacturing Sector, accelerated by Formnext](#) next to the Metal Removal Sector in the South Building.
- Returning the [Smartforce Student Summit](#) to Level 1 of the North Building.
- [Attractions](#) such as AMT’s Emerging Technology Center, presentations on the IMTS+ Main Stage, the Miles for Manufacturing 5K Run/Walk (which has raised over \$250,000 for STEM education), and the Creators Lounge for manufacturing influencers.
- A full schedule of [conferences](#) for technical education and networking.

IMTS 2026 [visitor registration](#) is now open, and housing services will open in November.

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Image: IMTS 2024.jpg

Image Caption: Douglas K. Woods, president of AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology, urges visitors to explore technologies that create a higher level of performance, differentiate their business, and grow their customer bases.

Video Name: Achieve the Impossible

Video Link: <https://youtu.be/olOG7inAGrM>

Video Caption: Every two years, the manufacturing technology industry comes together at IMTS to redefine and transform the future by achieving the impossible.

IMTS Photos and Logos

- [Download](#) IMTS 2026 logo.
- [Download](#) IMTS-approved photos for media.

About IMTS – The International Manufacturing Technology Show

IMTS – The International Manufacturing Technology Show is where the creators, builders, sellers, and drivers of manufacturing technology come to connect and achieve the impossible. Attendees discover advanced manufacturing solutions that include innovations in CNC machining, automation, robotics, additive, software, AI, and transformative digital technologies that are driving the industry forward. Owned and produced by AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology, IMTS is the largest and most defining trade event for manufacturing technology in the Western Hemisphere. With more than 1.2 million square feet of exhibit space, the show attracts visitors from more than 110 countries. IMTS 2024 had

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89,020 registrants, featured 1,609 exhibiting companies, and included a Student Summit that attracted 14,713 visitors. IMTS 2026 will be held Sept. 14-19, 2026, at McCormick Place in Chicago. Discover more at [IMTS.com](https://www.imts.com) and connect with IMTS on [social](#).

About AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology

AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology represents U.S.-based providers of manufacturing technology – the advanced machinery, devices, and digital equipment that U.S. manufacturing relies on to be productive, innovative, and competitive. Located in McLean, Virginia, near the nation's capital, AMT acts as the industry's voice to accelerate the pace of innovation, increase global competitiveness, and develop manufacturing's advanced workforce of tomorrow. With extensive expertise in industry data and market intelligence, as well as a full complement of international business operations, AMT offers its members an unparalleled level of support. AMT also produces IMTS – The International Manufacturing Technology Show, the premier manufacturing technology event in North America. Learn more at [AMTonline.org](https://www.amtonline.org).

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